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Application No.: 10/556,931

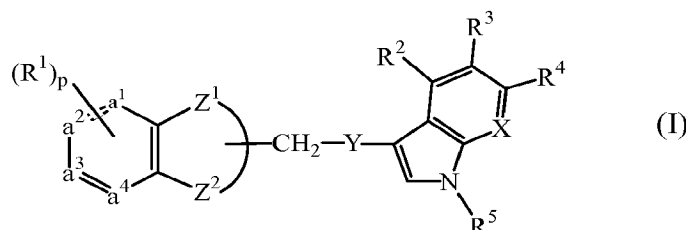
Office Action Dated: June 18, 2008

PATENT
REPLY FILED UNDER EXPEDITED
PROCEDURE PURSUANT TO
37 CFR § 1.116

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound according to Formula (I)



a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base addition salt thereof, a stereochemically isomeric form thereof, an N-oxide form thereof or a quaternary ammonium salt thereof, wherein

~~-a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is a bivalent radical of formula~~

~~-CH=CH-N=CH- (a-3) or~~

~~-CH=CH-CH=N- (a-4) ;~~

~~-Z¹—Z²- is a bivalent radical of formula~~

~~-O-CH₂-O- (b-1),~~

~~-O-CH₂-CH₂-O- (b-2),~~

~~-NR⁷-CH₂-CH₂-O- (b-3);~~

wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylcarbonyl ;

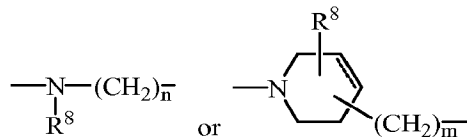
X is CR⁶;

each R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁶ is independently hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro, hydroxy,

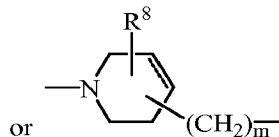
p is an integer equal to 0, 1, 2 or 3 ;

R⁵ is hydrogen or alkyl ;

Y is ~~a bivalent radical of formula~~



(c-1)



(c-2)

wherein

m is an integer equal to 0 or 1 ;

n is an integer equal to 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 ;

the dotted line represents an optional double bond ;

R^8 is hydrogen; and

alkyl represents a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon ~~radical~~ having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon ~~radical~~ having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms; said hydrocarbon ~~radical~~ being optionally substituted with at least one phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl or amino ~~radical~~;

~~alkenyl represents a straight or branched unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; said hydrocarbon radical having at least one double bond and said hydrocarbon radical being optionally substituted with at least one phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl or amino radical;~~

~~aryl represents phenyl or naphthyl, optionally substituted with at least one radical that is alkyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, alkyloxy or amino ; and~~

~~heteroaryl is a monocyclic heterocycle heterocyclic radical that is azetidiny, pyrrolidinyl, dioxolyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, dioxyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperazinyl, imidazolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, 2H-pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazoliny, pyrrazolinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl or triazinyl ; each radical optionally substituted with at least one radical that is alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, alkyloxy or amino;~~

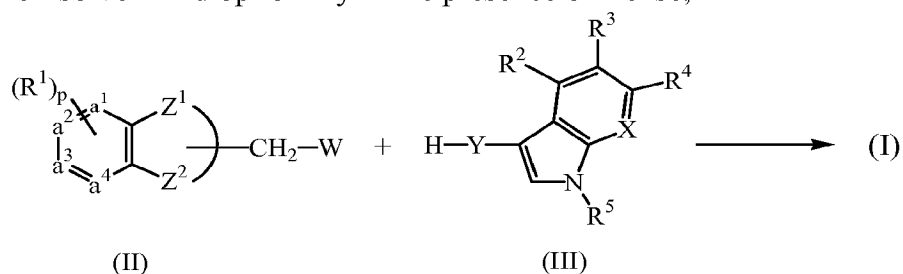
with the proviso that compounds wherein simultaneously $-a^1=a^2-a^3=a^4-$ is (a-4),

$-Z^1-Z^2-$ is (b-2) and Y is (c-2) are excluded.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R^7 is hydrogen or methyl.
4. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein Y is ~~a bivalent radical~~ of formula (c-1) wherein $n = 3$ and R^8 is hydrogen or of formula (c-2) wherein $m = 0$ or 1 and R^8 is hydrogen.

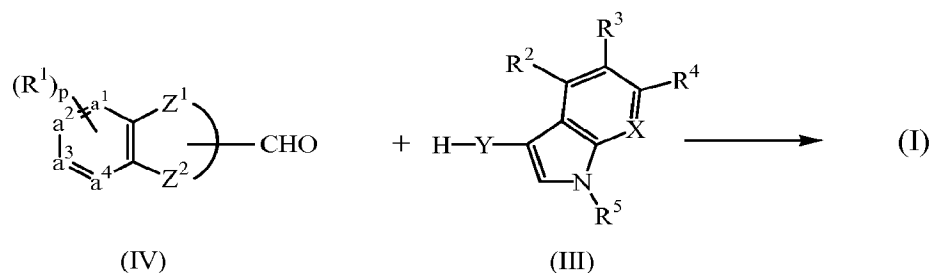
5. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein X is CR⁶; R², R³, R⁴ and R⁶ are each independently hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro or hydroxy; and R⁵ is hydrogen.
6. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1, wherein R⁷ is hydrogen or methyl; Y is ~~a bivalent radical~~ of formula (c-1) wherein n = 3 and R⁸ is hydrogen or (c-2) wherein R⁸ is hydrogen; and R⁵ is hydrogen.
7. (Canceled)
8. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and, as active ingredient, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
9. (Withdrawn) A method for the prevention and/or treatment in a mammal of a disorder or disease responsive to the inhibition of dopamine D₂, D₃ and/or D₄-receptors, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
10. (Withdrawn) A method for the prevention and/or treatment in a mammal of a disorder or disease responsive to the inhibition of serotonin reuptake and antagonism of 5-HT_{1A} receptors, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for the prevention and/or treatment in a mammal of a disorder or disease responsive to the combined effect of a dopamine D₂, D₃ and/or D₄ antagonist, a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor (SSRI) and a 5-HT_{1A}-agonist, partial agonist or antagonist, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
12. (Withdrawn) A method for the prevention and/or treatment in a mammal of general anxiety disorder, panic disorder, obsessive compulsive disorder, depression, social phobia, eating disorders, psychosis or neurological disorders, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

13. (Withdrawn) A method for the prevention and/or treatment of schizophrenia in a mammal, comprising administering to the mammal a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.
14. (Withdrawn/Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of a compound according to Formula (I) comprising
- alkylating a compound-of Formula (II) with a compound of Formula (III), in a reaction-inert solvent and optionally in the presence of a base;

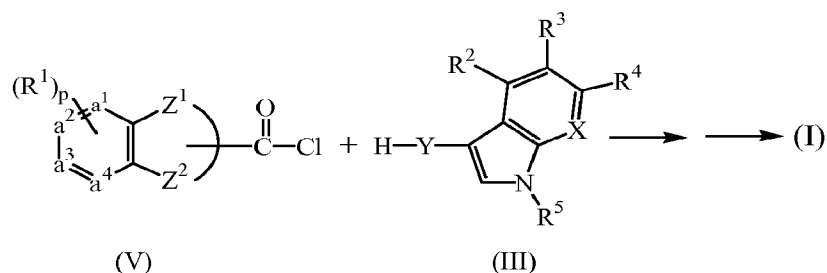


wherein W is a leaving group; or

--reductively aminating a compound-of Formula (IV) with a compound-of Formula (III) in a reaction-inert solvent and in the presence of a reducing agent; or



--reacting an acid chloride of Formula (V) with a compound-of Formula (III) in a reaction-inert solvent and in the presence of a suitable base, and reducing the amide in a reaction-inert solvent in the presence of a reducing agent;



~~-a¹=a²-a³=a⁴- is a bivalent radical of formula~~

~~-CH=CH-N=CH- (a-3) or~~

~~-CH=CH-CH=N- (a-4) ;~~

~~-Z¹—Z²- is a bivalent radical of formula~~

~~-O-CH₂-O- (b-1),~~

~~-O-CH₂-CH₂-O- (b-2),~~

~~-NR⁷-CH₂-CH₂-O- (b-3);~~

~~wherein R⁷ is hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl, alkyloxyalkyl or alkylcarbonyl;~~

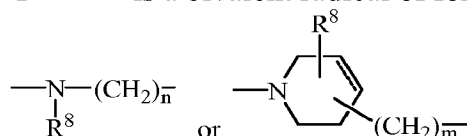
X is CR⁶;

each R¹, R², R³, R⁴ and R⁶ is independently hydrogen, halo, cyano, nitro, or;

p is an integer equal to 0, 1, 2 or 3 ;

R⁵ is hydrogen or alkyl ;

Y is ~~a bivalent radical of formula~~



(c-1)

(c-2)

wherein

m is an integer equal to 0 or 1 ;

n is an integer equal to 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6 ;

the dotted line represents an optional double bond ;

R⁸ is hydrogen; and

alkyl represents a straight or branched saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic saturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms; said hydrocarbon radical being optionally substituted with at least one-phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl or amino radical;

~~alkenyl represents a straight or branched unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or a cyclic unsaturated hydrocarbon radical having from 3 to 6 carbon atoms ; said hydrocarbon radical having at least one double bond and said hydrocarbon radical being optionally substituted with at least one phenyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, formyl or amino radical;~~

~~aryl~~—~~represents phenyl or naphthyl, optionally substituted with at least one radical that is alkyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, alkyloxy or amino ; and~~
~~heteroaryl is a monocyclic heterocycle heterocyclic radical that is azetidiny, pyrrolidinyl, dioxolyl, imidazolidinyl, pyrrazolidinyl, piperidinyl, homopiperidinyl, dioxyl, morpholinyl, dithianyl, thiomorpholinyl, piperazinyl, imidazolidinyl, tetrahydrofuranyl, 2H-pyrrolyl, pyrrolinyl, imidazolinyl, pyrrazolinyl, pyrrolyl, imidazolyl, pyrazolyl, triazolyl, furanyl, thienyl, oxazolyl, isoxazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, isothiazolyl, pyridinyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrazinyl, pyridazinyl or triazinyl ;~~
~~each radical optionally substituted with at least one radical that is alkyl, aryl, arylalkyl, halo, cyano, oxo, hydroxy, alkyloxy or amino.~~

15. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 14, further comprising converting the compound of Formula (I) into a therapeutically active, non-toxic acid addition salt by treatment with an acid.

16. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 15, further comprising converting the acid addition salt into a free base by treatment with alkali.

17. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 16, further comprising converting the compound of Formula (I) into a stereochemically isomeric form, a N-oxide, or a quaternary ammonium salt.

18. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 14, further comprising converting the compound of Formula (I) into a therapeutically active, non-toxic base addition salt by treatment with a base.

19. (Withdrawn) The process of claim 18, further comprising converting the base addition salt into a free acid by treatment with an acid.